

1. (ONCE AMENDED) An apparatus for presenting, and monitoring telecommunication transaction records via a thin web client interface, the apparatus comprising:

a billing server, configured to receive telecommunication transaction information, and configured to translate said telecommunication transaction information into one of a plurality of telecommunication transaction records, said plurality of telecommunication transaction records being elements of a user account bill, said billing server also configured to [maintain the telecommunication transaction records, and to]query said plurality of [the]telecommunication transaction records in response to a request for prescribed data; and

a web server, coupled to said billing server, configured to [send]provide said telecommunication transaction information to said billing server, to request said prescribed data in response to a user command via the thin web client interface, and to provide said prescribed data to the user;

wherein said prescribed data distinguishes between a first telecommunication transaction record and a second telecommunication transaction record.

3. (ONCE AMENDED) The apparatus as recited in claim 2, wherein, upon execution of said specific telecommunication event, said web server sends said telecommunication transaction information to said billing server and said billing server generates a specific telecommunication transaction record by including additional information to include a specific place called, a specific account number, and a specific transaction cost.

5. (ONCE AMENDED) The apparatus as recited in claim 4, wherein each of said plurality of telecommunication transaction [information]records comprises an account number, a calling number, a transaction date, a transaction time, a called number, a called place, a transaction duration, and a transaction cost.

Sub CB 11. (ONCE AMENDED) The apparatus as recited in claim 10, wherein said billing server maintains said plurality of telecommunication transaction records in a data base.

Sub B27 14. (ONCE AMENDED) An interactive telecommunications billing mechanism, comprising:

a billing server, for maintaining a transaction data base, and for querying said transaction data base to retrieve selected transaction records that match parameters of a query, wherein each of said selected transaction records comprises:

a line field, documenting a first telephone number from which a call originates;

a number field, documenting a second telephone number to which said call is placed;

a place field, documenting a location corresponding to said number field; and

a cost field, documenting a cost of a corresponding call event;

wherein a user account bill is made up of transaction records corresponding to a particular account number; and

a web server, coupled to said billing server, for providing said query in response to a user command received from a data network, and for transmitting said selected transaction records to a user over said data network for viewing via a web browser.

1 23. (ONCE AMENDED) An apparatus for accessing selected telecommunications
2 records over the internet from a user computer that is executing a web browser
3 application, said apparatus comprising:

4 a billing server, for maintaining telecommunications records, and for providing
5 the selected telecommunications records in response to a user request, said
6 billing server comprising:

7 data base logic, for storing said telecommunications records, wherein each
8 of said telecommunications records documents a specific
9 telecommunications event, and wherein particular ones of said
10 telecommunications records corresponding to a particular user
11 account number are periodically processed to generate an account
12 bill;

13 maintenance logic, for providing said data base logic with a new
14 telecommunications record corresponding to a new
15 telecommunications event; and

16 query logic, for searching said telecommunications records in accordance
17 with parameters prescribed by said user request, and for retrieving
18 the selected telecommunications records; and

19 a web server, coupled to said billing server, for receiving said user request over
20 the internet, and for providing the selected telecommunications records to
21 the user computer over the internet.

1 27. (ONCE AMENDED) A method for providing access to telecommunications
2 billing records in a billing computer over the internet, the access being obtained
3 via a remote computer that is executing a thin web client application, the method
4 comprising:

5 a) maintaining the telecommunications billing records in a data base, the
6 telecommunications billing records documenting individual

telecommunication events, each of the telecommunications billing records being an item of a periodic telephone bill;

b) querying the data base in accordance with parameters provided by a completed search parameter entry web page; and

[d]c) transmitting a search results web page to display the telecommunications billing records on the remote computer.

30. (ONCE AMENDED) A method for providing a user with detailed long distance telephonic transaction billing information via a thin web client, the method comprising:

a) providing a data server, coupled to local telephone switches, for tracking long distance telephone transactions and associated costs for a plurality of telephone numbers;

b) providing a web server, coupled to the data server, for presenting to the user the detailed long distance telephonic transaction information; and

c) providing the user with a customizable event monitor, coupled to the web server and to the data server, the event monitor for alerting the user when telephone transactions meet a specified criteria.

31. (ONCE AMENDED) The method as recited in claim 30 wherein the long distance telephonic transaction information comprises duration, date, cost, and number called for each transaction.

36. (ONCE AMENDED) The method as recited in claim 30 wherein the specified criteria comprises a total of long distance [charges]costs for one or more of the plurality of telephone numbers, within a specified time period.

39. (ONCE AMENDED) A long distance transaction event monitor, coupled to a telephone network, for alerting a user when specified alert criteria relating to telephony transactions have been met, the event monitor comprising: